

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1 - 16. (Canceled)

1 17. (Currently amended) A computer system comprising:
2 a first server operative to receive I/O requests from a requesting computer;
3 a second server connected to said first server via a network and operative to
4 receive I/O requests from said requesting computer;
5 a managing computer in data communication with said first and second servers
6 via said network;
7 a first storage unit; and
8 a second storage unit,
9 said first storage unit being accessible by said first server but not by said second
10 server;
11 said managing computer operative to obtain data access load conditions from said
12 first and second servers,
13 based on said data access load conditions, including a condition in that a load of
14 said first server exceeds a predetermined amount, said managing computer operative to:
15 select said second storage unit;
16 ~~move-copy~~ a first data partition stored in said first storage unit to said
17 second storage unit and subsequently delete said first data partition from said first storage
18 unit;
19 cause said second server to access said second storage unit; and
20 transmit information to said requesting computer that said first data is to
21 be accessed via said second server.

1 18. (Previously presented) The system of claim 17 wherein said first data
2 partition is copied from said first storage unit to said second storage unit and, subsequent to said
3 first data partition being copied to said second storage unit, said first data partition is deleted
4 from said first storage unit, thereby effecting a move of said first data partition to said second
5 storage unit.

1 19. (Previously presented) The system of claim 17 wherein said requesting
2 computer is a front-end server that receives requests from client machines, said first server and
3 second server each being a back-end server which receives requests from said front-end server.

1 20. (Previously presented) The system of claim 17 further comprising a
2 storage system, said storage system comprising said first storage unit and said second storage
3 unit, wherein a communication port in said second server can be configured for data
4 communication with a communication port in said storage system for data access to said second
5 storage unit.

1 21. (Previously presented) The system of claim 17, further comprising a first
2 storage system comprising said first storage unit and a second storage system comprising said
3 second storage unit.

1 22. (Previously presented) The system of claim 17 wherein moving said first
2 data partition from said first storage unit to said second storage unit includes copying it from said
3 first storage unit to said second storage unit, and subsequent to being copied to said second
4 storage unit said first data partition is deleted from said first storage unit,
5 wherein additional data partitions in said first storage unit can be similarly moved
6 to additional storage units, said additional storage units being accessed by additional servers, said
7 requesting computer being informed of said additional servers.

1 23. (Previously presented) The system of claim 22 wherein a communication
2 port in said second server can be configured for data communication with a communication ports
3 in said storage system for data access to said second storage unit.

1 24. (Previously presented) The system of claim 17 further comprising a
2 switch operative for data communication among devices connected to said switch, said first
3 server and said second server being connected to said switch, said storage system being
4 connected to said switch so that said first and second servers can access data stored in said first
5 and second storage units, said switch further being operative to direct data requests from one of
6 said first and second servers to one of said first and second storage units.

1 25. (Previously presented) The system of claim 17 wherein said management
2 computer includes a display unit operable to present a first display area and a second display
3 area,

4 said first display area to display one or more first symbols that represent said first
5 server, said second server, or said first storage unit, and having second symbols that represent
6 communication paths,

7 said second display area having third symbols that represent said second storage
8 unit,

9 wherein said management computer selects the second storage unit in accordance
10 with receiving an indication for moving one of said third symbols from said second display area
11 into said first display area.

1 26. (Currently amended) A computer system comprising:
2 a first server operative to receive I/O requests from a requesting computer;
3 a managing computer in data communication with said first server; and
4 a first storage system comprising a plurality of storage units;
5 a second storage system comprising a plurality of storage units,

6 said first server in data communication with a first storage unit in said first storage
7 system,

8 said managing computer operative to obtain loading information relating to data
9 access load conditions of said first server,

10 based on said data access load conditions, including a condition in that a load of
11 said first server exceeds a predetermined amount, said managing computer operative to:

12 select a second storage unit from either said first storage system or said
13 second storage system;

14 perform a move operation of a first data partition stored in said first
15 storage unit to said second storage unit and subsequently delete said first data partition
16 from said first storage unit; and

17 perform a first configuration operation wherein said first server can access
18 said first storage unit and said second storage unit,

19 wherein said first data partition is accessed via said second storage unit.

1 27. (Previously presented) The system of claim 26 wherein said first data
2 partition is copied from said first storage unit to said second storage unit and, subsequent to said
3 first data partition being copied to said second storage unit, said first data partition is deleted
4 from said first storage unit, thereby effecting said move operation of said first data partition.

1 28. (Previously presented) The system of claim 26 wherein managing
2 computer is further operative to perform a second configuration operation wherein a second
3 server accesses said second storage unit, if said first configuration operation cannot be
4 performed.

1 29. (Previously presented) The system of claim 28 wherein said requesting
2 computer is a front-end server that receives requests from client machines, said first server and
3 second server each being a back-end server which receives requests from said front-end server.

1 30. (Previously presented) The system of claim 26 wherein data in said first
2 storage unit is partitioned into a plurality of data partitions, said first data partition being one of
3 said data partitions, wherein said managing computer is further operative to move additional data
4 partitions from among said data partitions to additional storage units based on data access load
5 conditions obtained from said first server.

1 31. (Previously presented) The system of claim 26 further comprising a
2 switching device, said first server in data communication with said switching device, said
3 managing computer further being operative to obtain loading information from said first server
4 or said switching device.

1 32. (Previously presented) The system of claim 26 wherein said management
2 computer includes a display unit operable to present a first display area and a second display
3 area,
4 said first display area to display one or more first elements representative of said
5 first server, or said first storage unit, and second elements representative of communication paths
6 among said first elements,
7 said second display area to display one or more third elements representative of
8 said second storage unit,
9 wherein said management computer performs said first configuration operation in
10 accordance with receiving an indication for moving one of said third elements from said second
11 display area into said first display area.

1 33. (New) A computer system comprising:
2 a requesting computer including a front-end server for issuing an I/O request in
3 response to a signal from a client computer;
4 a plurality of back-end servers, connected to the front end server through a
5 network, for receiving the I/O request;

6 a storage device connected to the plurality of back-end servers through a
7 connection port provided therein, including a plurality of disks for storing data to be processed in
8 response to the I/O request received by at least one of the plurality of back-end server; and
9 a management computer connected to the requesting computer and the plurality of
10 back-end servers through the network for monitoring load conditions of the plurality of back-end
11 servers operating in response to the I/O request via the requesting computer;
12 wherein a part of data in a first disk processed by a first back-end server of the
13 plurality of back-end servers is controlled to be copied to a second disk accessed by a second
14 back-end server in case that a load of the first back-end server indicated by a number of I/O
15 access for the first disk exceeds a predetermined value, and controlled to be deleted from the
16 first disk.

1 34. (New) The computer system according to claim 33 further comprising
2 display unit adapted to be positioned in the management computer including a first display area
3 and a second display area,

4 wherein the first display area to display one or more first symbols is
5 representative of the back-end server receiving the i/o request, the front-end server or the first
6 disk, and second symbol is representative of communication paths among the first symbols,

7 wherein the second display area to display one or more third symbols is
8 representative of the second disk,

9 wherein the management computer selects the second disk in accordance with
10 receiving an indication for moving one of the third symbols from the second display area into the
11 first display area.

1 35. (New) The computer system according to claim 33, wherein the first disk
2 is not accessible by the second back-end server, and the second disk is not accessible by the first
3 back-end server before the part of data in the first disk is copied to the second disk and deleted
4 from the first disk, and wherein the part of data copied to the second disk is accessible by both
5 the first server and the second server.

- 1 36. (New) The computer system according to claim 33, wherein the
2 management computer further monitors load conditions at the ports, and wherein a part of data in
3 any of disks is controlled to be copied to another disk in case that the load condition exceeds a
4 predetermined amount, and controlled to be deleted from the disk.